UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/824,518	04/15/2004	Afshan Zabihi	ALC 3128	6467

7590   09/26/2007

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EXAMINER
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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2616	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/824,518	ZABIHI ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Man Phan	2616	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *15 April 2004*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-30* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☒ Claim(s) *19-30* is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-4,6-10,13 and 14* is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) *5,11,12 and 15-18* is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

        1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

        2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

        3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *4/15/04, 4/5/07*.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

1.   The application of Zabihi et al. for the "Framework for template-based retrieval of information from managed entities in a communication network" filed 04/15/2004 has been examined.   Claims 1-30 are pending in the application.

2.   The applicant should use this period for response to thoroughly and very closely proof read and review the whole of the application for correct correlation between reference numerals in the textual portion of the Specification and Drawings along with any minor spelling errors, general typographical errors, accuracy, assurance of proper use for Trademarks ^{TM}, and other legal symbols @, where required, and clarity of meaning in the Specification, Drawings, and specifically the claims (i.e., provide proper antecedent basis for "the" and "said" within each claim). Minor typographical errors could render a Patent unenforceable and so the applicant is strongly encouraged to aid in this endeavor.

Specification

3.   Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

        The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 250 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 250 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the

title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns,"

"The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

The Abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it contains more than 250 words.

Correction is required.

Claim Objections

4.   Claim 7 is objected to because of the following informalities: On line 2: "...script template

form a plurality of..." should change to –script template from a plurality of-- . Appropriate

correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth
> in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior
> art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made
> to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be
> negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

6.   This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the

claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various

claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any

evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out

the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later

invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c)

and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

7.   Claims 1-4, 6-10, 13-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Leong et al. (US#6,393,475) in view of Tindal et al. (US#7,249,170).

With respect to claims 1-4, the references disclose a novel system and method for

configuring, monitoring and managing network devices utilizing Command Line Interface (CLI),

according to the essential features of the claims. Leong et al. (US#6,393,475) discloses in Figs.

2 & 3 the schematic diagrams illustrated of a network device on which the network management

agent according to the present invention is installed. The network management function relating

to the network device is performed in response to a network management request issued from the

browser (*validating a managed entity for execution*). The network management request may be

included in a data packet received at the agent, the data packet including a plurality of network

management requests. The network management function addresses a network management

object, and performing the network management function requires that an object identifier

included within the network management request be associated with the network management

object (*deriving a managed entity based on validation*)(See also Figs. 11-14; Col. 3, lines 56 plus

and Col. 13, lines 8 plus).

In the same field of endeavor, Tindal et al. (US#7,249,170) teaches the claimed method

of managing entity configuration of various communications network equipments utilizing CLI.

Tindal et al. (US#7,249,170) teaches in Fig. 7 a flow chart of a method for configuring a network

device in accordance with the present invention, in which the action manager 185 (shown in FIG.

3) carries out the work order by locating the target network device, retrieving the appropriate

configuration record from the directory 165 (shown in FIG. 3), generating the device-specific

code corresponding to the altered configuration (Step 290), and pushing the device-specific code

to the target network device (Step 295). The action manger 185 can also store the device-specific

code in a remote storage device, such as remote storage device 145 shown in FIG. 2, and a

pointer to the remote storage device can be recorded in the configuration record. Finally, the

action manager 185 can verify that the device-specific code was properly transferred to the

selected network device and that the network device is behaving accordingly (Step 300).

Assuming that the device-specific codes were installed correctly and that the network device is

operating properly, a completion message is published to the event bus 175 (shown in FIG. 3)

(Step 305) (Col. 10, lines 1 plus).

Regarding claims 6-10, Leong et al. (US#6,393,475) further teaches in Fig. 14 a flow

chart illustrated method of performing a network management transaction, in which at step 210,

a request message including a TRAP instruction (*trap set management function with respect to a*

managed object), and listing one or more MIB objects extracted from the URL Dictionary 60, is

propagated from the client to the agent 30. At step 210, the agent 30 creates traps on the listed

MIB objects. Accordingly, any change in the value of the MIB objects identified in the request

message will cause a response message to be transmitted to the client. At step 212, the agent 30

transmits a response message to the client, confirming the creation of the requested traps (Col.

14, lines 19 plus).

Regarding claims 13-14, Leong further teaches in Fig. 3 a schematic representation of a

network device on which the network management agent according to the present invention is

installed, and having a storage device including a computer-readable medium on which the agent

is stored. The network device 32 includes a processor 50 for executing the various sequences of

instructions which comprise the web-capable network management agent 30. The network

device 32 further includes a main memory 52, in which the sequences of instructions which comprise the agent 30 may at least partially reside, as shown in FIG. 3, when the sequences of instructions are being executed by the processor 50. The device 32 further incorporates a mass storage device 54 which in one embodiment comprises a drive which operates to read data from, and write data to, a computer readable medium 56 on which the sequences of instructions comprising the agent 30 may be stored (Col. 6, lines 54 plus).

One skilled in the art of communications would recognize the need for performing configuration change management in associated with CLI based operations management, and would apply Tindal's teaching of the network manager unit disposed between the network administrator and the network devices into Leong's novel use of the network management transaction using CLI. Therefore, It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to apply Tindal's system and method for configuration, management and monitoring of network resources into Leong's method of performing a network management transaction using a web-capable agent with the motivation being to provide a system and method for obtaining configuration information, diagnostic information, and statistic information in support of operations management actions in a communication network.

Allowable Subject Matter

8.   Claims 19-30 are allowable.

9.   Claims 5, 11, 12 and 15-18 are objected to as being dependent upon the rejected base claims, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

10.   The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for the indication of allowable

subject matter: The closest prior art of record fails to disclose or suggest wherein storing

retrieved managed entity viewing script output, the method further comprises steps of: a.

appending the retrieved managed entity viewing script output to a log file; and b. optionally

truncating the log file when a maximum log file size is exceeded; further comprising steps of: a.

specifying a sequence of Command Line Interface (CLI) commands in creating the managed

entity viewing script template; and b. ascribing an identifier to the managed entity viewing script

template specifying a managed entity make, a managed entity type, and a managed entity CLI

command set version, and whether the managed entity viewing script template is parameterized,

wherein deriving the managed entity viewing script from the managed entity viewing script

template, the method further comprising step of: a. retrieving target managed entity parameter

values from a Network Management System (NMS) repository; and b. populating managed

entity viewing script template parameters with the retrieved managed entity parameter values, as

specifically recited in the claims.

Conclusion

11.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's

disclosure.

The Murray et al. (US#7,177,924) is cited to show the command line interface processor

with dynamic update of attribute dependencies.

The Murray et al. (US#7,113,989) is cited to show the command line interface processor.

The Bolder et al. (US#2005/0138557) is cited to show the method of configuring

managed entities in a communications network using configuration templates.

The Bolder et al. (US#2007/0130192) is cited to show the method and system for configuring network devices through an operations support system interface.

The Bolder et al. (US#2004/0059813) is cited to show the methods and apparatus for configuration change management in communications networks.

The Proulx et al. (US#2005/0022189) is cited to show the centralized internet protocol/multi protocol label switching connectivity verification in a communications network management context.

The Thakor (US#2003/0220986) is cited to show the system and method for transforming configuration commands.

The Jarriel (US#5,996,012) is cited to show the application development process for use in a distributed computer enterprise environment.

The Royer (US#2002/0157020) is cited to show the firewall for protecting electronic commerce databases from malicious hackers.

The Steele et al. (US#6,282,175) is cited to show the method for tracking configuration changes in networks of computer systems through historical monitoring of configuration sytatus of devices on the network.

The Keeler, Jr. et al. (US#6,502,130) is cited to show the system and method for collecting connectivity data of an area network.

12.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to M. Phan whose telephone number is (571) 272-3149. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Fri from 6:00 to 3:00.
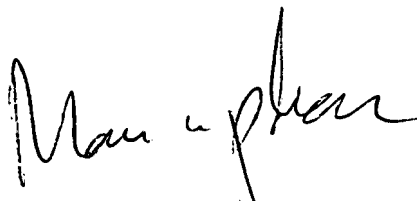
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Jay Patel, can be reached on (571) 272-2988. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding

should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

13.   Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published

applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for

unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about

the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have any questions on access to

the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at toll free 1-866-217-

9197.

Mphan

09/18/2007.

MAN U. PHAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER